



**King County
Elections**

Elections Division

Department of Executive Services

ELE-ES-0100

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TTY Relay: 711

January 16, 2009

The Honorable Dow Constantine
Chair, King County Council
Room 1200
C O U R T H O U S E

Dear Councilmember Constantine:

I wanted to take the opportunity to update you on the status of upgrading King County's tabulation system. As you are aware, the federal certification and testing process has been ongoing since early in 2007. At this point in time, the process continues and my office is in regular communication with the Election Assistance Commission, the test lab, the Office of the Secretary of State, and Premier Election Solutions. This has been an exceptionally frustrating process, prompting me to draft the attached letter to the Washington State Congressional delegation seeking their oversight of the process. The King County Elections Office intends to move forward with aspects of the implementation under our control and begin the acceptance testing process. The Office of the Secretary of State and the Election Assistance Commission have been consulted and support this action.

The acceptance testing process will begin on Tuesday, January 20, 2009, and will continue until the week of the February 3 special election. The process will resume February 9 and will continue until completion; approximately eight weeks total. The acceptance testing scripts and process are in place and are consistent with Motion 12564.

The acceptance process contains four steps: delivery testing, a mock election, volume/stress testing, and an independent security review. Anitian, an elections security firm, will be conducting the security review of the system concurrent with the other testing process.

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The testing will take place at our Renton office in a secured room visible from the observer loop. There is limited space available inside the room for observation of the process. If you are interested in scheduling a visit, please contact my office.

If you have any questions, please contact me directly at 206-296-1540.

Sincerely,



Sherril Huff
Director

cc: King County Councilmembers

ATTN: Tom Bristow, Interim Chief of Staff

Saroja Reddy, Policy Staff Director

Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council

Frank Abe, Communications Director

Kurt Triplett, Chief of Staff, King County Executive (KCE), Executive Office (EO)

Sheryl V. Whitney, Assistant County Executive, KCE, EO

Bob Cowan, Office of Management and Budget Director, KCE, EO

James J. Buck, County Administrative Officer, Department of Executive Services